

Abstract

A recommender system is disclosed for generating a recommendation in a processing device such as a portable computer, personal digital assistant (PDA) or wireless telephone. The recommender system receives an input representative of an offer or other opportunity and one or more user-specified limiting factors. The recommender system generates the recommendation based at least in part on the input and a stored profile associated with the processing device. A characteristic of the manner in which the recommendation is generated is determined in accordance with the one or more limiting factors. The recommender system also preferably generates a ripeness indicator associated with the recommendation, the ripeness indicator being indicative of the manner in which the recommendation was generated.